February 23, 2023

Public Safety and Security Committee Legislative Office Building 300 Capitol Ave Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

My name is Holly Sullivan and I am the President of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League. Our organization proudly advocates for the rights of hundreds of thousands of law-abiding gun owners in this state and 43,000 members in our organization. I am here today to support HB 6684.

I frequently find myself in other states in the company of competitive shooters. Without fail, I am regularly impressed particularly with the young competitors. These young men and women are respectful of their sport, eager to learn from others and passionate about not beating one another, but competing against their own records. It is truly a sport of self-improvement, and they demonstrate stellar sportsmanship. However, it is rare that I encounter men and women from Connecticut at these competitions as our laws make it extraordinarily difficult for new competitors to do so. Further, residents of our state are missing opportunities such as significant scholarships.

I do not believe that it was the intention of the legislature to hinder competition. Passage of HB 6684 is an opportunity to correct this and revive an American tradition that has suffered as a result of existing statute.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Holly Sullivan

Holly Sullivan President, Connecticut Citizens Defense League Southbury, CT